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dition to copyright protection should be tested by its tendency to further these interests. It would not be unreasonable to make the depositing of the title and copies of the work conditions precedent to bringing suit, but a law making a failure to do so a forfeiture of the protection of the copyright act, has no tendency to further the interests of the public, and in many instances is disastrous to the author. To deprive an author of a valuable right for mere failure to insert a notice of copyright in one publication, also seems unjustifiable. The public interests would be fully conserved by a provision protecting one who had published copyright matter in good faith and with no notice of the copyright.

Whatever criticism may be made upon Mr. Elder's method of treatment, it is impossible to dissent from his conclusions, and it is gratifying to know that there is now on foot a movement, instituted by the American Publishers' Association and the American Copyright League, to secure more satisfactory legislation on this subject.

LEGAL MASTERPIECES, SPECIMENS OF ARGUMENTATION AND EXPOSITION, BY EMINENT LAWYERS. Edited by Van Vechten Veeder. St. Paul: Keefe-Davidson Company. 1903. 2 vols. pp. xxiv, 1-618, 619-1324. 8vo.

As he states in his preface, the editor of this collection has planned to "bring together from the whole field of legal literature specimens of the best models of the various forms of discourse and composition in which the lawyer's work is embodied." That his selections fulfil his aim, no one will question. That he has omitted some arguments or judgments which might well have a place in such a collection, is indisputable. But in order to bring such a collection within the compass of two volumes some selection was essential, and the selection made by the editor has much in its favor.

The work may profitably be compared with a somewhat similar collection made in 1881 by William L. Snyder of the New York Bar. Mr. Snyder's work was, however, somewhat more limited in scope, as its title, "Great Speeches by Great Lawyers," sufficiently indicates. Naturally, there was no place in it for judicial opinions, and such legal masterpieces as some of the opinions of Lord Mansfield, of Chief Justice John Marshall, and of Lord Stowell, which Mr. Veeder prints, were perforce omitted. Both editors agree in selecting arguments of Daniel Webster, Charles O'Connor, Jeremiah S. Black, David Dudley Field, William M. Everts, Thomas Erskine, and John Philpot Curran. In the case of three of these, O'Connor, Black, and Curran, the argument selected is the same. In Mr. Veeder's book we find the famous opinion of Alexander Hamilton on the constitutionality of a United States bank. We find, too, among others omitted from Mr. Snyder's book, arguments by Horace Binney, Benjamin R. Curtis, Wendell Phillips, and also opinions by Lord Bowen, and arguments by James C. Carter which have been made since 1881. In "Great Speeches by Great Lawyers" we find, on the other hand, arguments by Patrick Henry, William Pinckney, William Wirt, William H. Seward, and Rufus Choate, none of which appear in the more recent book.

It should be noted that the two editors worked on somewhat different plans: Mr. Snyder selected single speeches from the works of twenty-five different lawyers. Mr. Veeder has confined himself to the works of twenty men, but from more than half he has printed two or more selections, thus giving a more comprehensive idea of the lawyer's power. Mr. Snyder has in each instance prefixed to the speech selected an analysis, and he has also divided the speeches themselves by headings in the text. His introductory notes are for the most part brief, and confined to the circumstances of the particular case.

Mr. Veeder's editorial work deserves very high praise. To the whole collection he has prefixed an interesting and instructive study of forensic argument. At the beginning of the work of each jurist is placed a short biography, followed by a lengthy and careful criticism of that jurist's life, work, and influence. It is a most excellent book for the library of any person interested in prose literature.